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Founded 1988

## THE HECKER LAW GROUP

A Professional Law Corporation

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January 3, 2007

CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION  
ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED

*Via Certified Mail*

Mail Stop 16  
Director of the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U. S. Patent Application No. 09/163,993  
Filed: September 28, 1998  
Entitled: ON-LINE POSTAGE SYSTEM  
Our Ref.: 81045.913

Dear Director:

We enclose a copy of our November 30, 2006 Monthly Statement of Deposit Account No. 081520 evidencing a charge on November 14, 2006 for U. S. Serial No. 09/163,993 in the amount of \$790.00. That amount appears to correspond to the fee for filing a Request for Continued Examination. This sum should be credited back to the account.

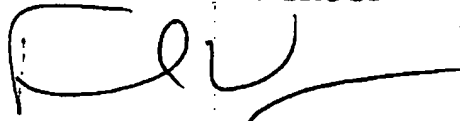
On October 25, 2006, I spoke with Examiner Kambiz Abdi in regards to the Amendment filed October 10, 2006. I confirmed to Examiner Abdi that no Request for Continued Examination had been made. As a result, Examiner Abdi issued his November 2, 2006 Advisory Action, copy enclosed.

We therefore respectfully request the sum of \$790.00 be credited our Deposit Account No. 081520 and a copy of such credit forwarded to us for accounting purposes.

Should the Director have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

THE HECKER LAW GROUP



Frank Weyer, Esq.

GAH/FW/sch  
Enclosures

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# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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## MONTHLY STATEMENT OF DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

To replenish your deposit account, detach and return top portion with your check. Make checks payable to "Director of the USPTO."

THE HECKER LAW GROUP  
GARY A HECKER, ESQ.  
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FINA

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DATE POSTED			CONTROL NO.	DESCRIPTION (Serial, Patent, TM, Order)	DOCKET NO.	FEE CODE	CHARGES/ CREDITS	BALANCE
MO.	DAY	YR.						
11	2	06	1757	60863958	54564.911P	1005	200.00	1360.30
11	8	06	1286	11557418	08300.911	4011	75.00	1285.30
11	8	06	1287	11557418	08300.911	2111	250.00	1035.30
11	8	06	1288	11557418	08300.911	2311	100.00	935.30
11	14	06	1	09163993	04500.913	1801	790.00	145.30
11	27	06	52	E-REPLENISHMENT		9203	000.00	3145.30
11	30	06	2460	11564838	08300.912	4011	75.00	3070.30
11	30	06	2461	11564838	08300.912	2111	250.00	2820.30
11	30	06	2462	11564838	08300.912	2311	100.00	2720.30
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# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/163,993	09/29/1998	MOHAN ANANDA	? 04500.913	6131

22804 7590 11/02/2006

THE HECKER LAW GROUP  
1925 CENTURY PARK EAST  
SUITE 2300  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90067

EXAMINER

ABDI, KAMBIZ

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3621

DATE MAILED: 11/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action  
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

09/163,993

Applicant(s)

ANANDA, MOHAN

Examiner

Kambiz Abdi

Art Unit

3621

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 12 October 2006 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☐ The period for reply expires \_\_\_\_\_ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
b) ☒ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

**AMENDMENTS**

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because  
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);  
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);  
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or  
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).  
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.  
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).  
7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.  
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:  
Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) rejected: 273-300.  
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_.

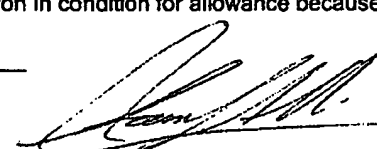
**AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE**

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).  
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).  
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER**

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:  
See Continuation Sheet.  
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s): \_\_\_\_\_.  
13. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

KAMBIZ ABDI  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

  
Kambiz Abdi  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 3621

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Applicant's arguments in regards to the claims as they have been presented in the final action has been reviewed and given substantial consideration. However, after review of the amendments made on February 13, 2006 and subsequent office action mailed on May 19, 2006 and the response to the arguments provided in the office action and the same argument being presented by the applicant in the after final filed October 12, 2006. The examiner would like to recapture the arguments hat were presented to the applicant below and;

Whitehouse clearly discloses the use of the secure central storage as it is disclosed (See Whitehouse column 10, line 45-column 11, line 29). It is clearly stated that the use of secure central computer is for the safe keeping of the account records of every meter and user accounts related to such virtual meter. It is a well understood and practiced by one skill in the art that secure storage is clearly storage that is secure from access by unauthorized users, such secure storage is achieved by encrypting the data within the database as it has been clearly stated by the Whitehouse (See Whitehouse column 4, lines 1-50) also it is the physical security of such data that is required by the USPS as well. Whitehouse clearly states all the limitations stated by the applicants in its claimed invention as part of the original USPS requirements that are well known to one skill in the art. However, the examiner has provided additional art to further clarify the understanding of state of the art and the claimed limitations.

Therefore, the examiner does not believe that the claims are allowable, as they have been presented in their current form..

KAMBIZ ABDI  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Document code: WFEE

United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Sales Receipt for Accounting Date: 11/14/2006

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Adjustment Date: 01/25/2007 SDENBOR1  
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